

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 RSC-01 DRC-01 SSO-00 /019 W

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O 201025Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO DEA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6925

UNCLAS BANGKOK 15183

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: WB-74-0024, HEROIN REFINERY, FANG, THAILAND

REF : CHIANG MAI 352 (20 SEP 74.)

DEA PASS DURKIN/EN; CUSACK/EOI; COSTIGAN/PA FROM DICK

1. ON MORNING OF 19 SEP 74. THAI POLICE OFFICERS FROM SNO GARRISON AT FANG, THAILAND, ASSISTED BY BPP OFFICERS RAN OPERATION AGAINST HEROIN CONVERSION FACILITY LOCATED IN OPEN JUNGLE AREA ABOUT TWENTY (20) KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF FANG. COORDINATES NC 077107. FACILITY CONSISTED OF THREE LARGE HUTS CONCEALED FROM THE AIR BY JUNGLE CANOPY. POLICE ASSAULT FORCE TREKKED TWO KILOMETERS ALONG THE JUNGLE TRAIL FROM NEAREST VILLAGE AND ADDITIONAL TWO KILOMETERS IN A STREAM BED BEFORE REACHING LAB SITE. ON NEARING LAB OFFICERS TAKEN UNDER FIRE BY RETREATING UNIDENTIFIED FORCE BELIEVED TO BE LAHU TRIBESMEN. NO CASUALTIES EITHER SIDE. AT ONE POINT IN THIS OPERATION SNO REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM CHIANG MAI AND ONE PLATOON OF BPP WERE AIR LIFTED IN VIA HELICOPTER. EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF ROLE OF HELICOPTER AIRCRAFT IN STRIKES OF THIS TYPE.

2. LAB IN ACTUAL OPERATION AT TIME SNO ARRIVAL. NO PRISONERS TAKEN AS OCCUPANTS FLED SCENE AND MADE GOOD THEIR ESCAPE INTO THE JUNGLE. FOLLOWING DRUGS, CHEMICALS AND LAB EQUIPMENT FOUND IN HUTS CONSIDERED TO COMPRISE UNCLASSIFIED

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A SUBSTANTIAL AND SOPHISTICATED OPERATION.

A. ONE (1) KILOGRAM HEROIN NO. 4.
B. FORTY-EIGHT (48) KILOS NEAR MORPHINE BASE IN LIQUID STATE
UNDERGOING CONVERSION TO MORPHINE BASE.
C. ONE POINT SIX (1.6) KILOS UNIDENTIFIED WHITE LIQUID.
D. ONE (1) KILOGRAM UNIDENTIFIED WHITE POWDER
E. TEN (10) LITRE FLASK.
F. TEN (10) LITRE EHERLYMYER FLASK
G. ONE (1) LITRE GRADUATE
H. ONE (1) LARGE BUCHNER FUNNEL.
I. SCALE 500 GRAM CAPACITY.
J. SCALE EIGHT (8) KILOGRAM CAPACITY
K. HYDROCHLORIC ACID TWO (2) KILOS.
L. ACETIC ANHYDRIDE ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE (125) GALLONS.
M. LIME FIFTY (50) SACKS
N. ALCOHOL ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE (125) GALLONS.
O. UNIDENTIFIED CHEMICAL ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) GALLONS.
P. DESICCATORS FOR DRYING
Q. FILTER PAPERS AND FILTRATION APPARATUS.

3. SAMPLES OF SUSPECTED NARCOTICS FURNISHED FOR DEA
ANALYSIS. BALANCE SEIZED NARCOTICS AND SOME LABORATORY
EQUIPMENT TAKEN TO FANG PROVINCIAL POLICE HEADQUARTERS
FOR SAFEKEEPING. REFINERY BUILDINGS, REMAINING EQUIPMENT
AND PRECURSER CHEMICALS DESTROYED AT SITE BY BURNING.

4. AFTER AREA SECURED AND PRIOR TO RAZING DEA S/A CLAUDE
POWERS INVITED TO ACCOMPANY SNO COMMANDER COL. KUSOL
AND BPP COMMANDER COL. PHAIROTE TO SCENE. POWERS
PHOTOGRAPHED LAB BUILDING AND ADJOINING AREA WATER
SUPPLY FOR LAB OPERATION OBTAINED FROM ADJACENT MOUNTAIN
STREAM. ADEQUATE WOOD FUEL FOR COOKING FIRES AVAILABLE
FOR THE CUTTING.

5. STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE PRECEDING THIS STRIKE
OBTAINED AND DEVELOPED BY POLICE CAPTAIN OF SNO GARRISON
AT FANG. BELIEVE ONE OF THE TWO SOURCES OF INFORMATION
WATCHED LAB SITE OVER TWO TO THREE DAY PERIOD WHILE
SECOND SOURCE ACTUALLY GUIDED POLICE THROUGH JUNGLE TO SITE.

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6. DEA-6 REPORTS TO FOLLOW.
KINTNER

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